



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **ARIZONA WOMAN SENTENCED FOR METH CONSPIRACY**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that an Arizona woman was sentenced in federal court today for participating in a conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine.

**Claudia Beteme**, 28, a citizen of Mexico living in Surprise, Ariz., was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Fernando J. Gaitan, Jr., this morning to five years and three months in federal prison without parole.

On Jan. 28, 2004, **Beteme** pleaded guilty to participating in a conspiracy to distribute 500 grams or more of methamphetamine from Sept. 1 to Oct. 7, 2003. **Beteme**, who was arrested at a local hotel with 193.8 grams of methamphetamine (pure) in her possession, admitted that she had brought the methamphetamine from Arizona to sell in the Kansas City area.

**Beteme** is one of three defendants indicted by a federal grand jury on Oct. 21, 2003.

**Jose Marquez-Reyes**, 44, a citizen of Mexico living in Denver, Colo., was sentenced to six years and three months in federal prison without parole on June 24, 2004. He pleaded guilty on Feb. 12, 2004, to participating in the conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine.

**Juan Pablo Valenzuela-Nunez**, 31, a citizen of Mexico living in Phoenix, Ariz., pleaded guilty on Jan. 28, 2004, to participating in the conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Charles E. Ambrose. It was investigated by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration and the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department.

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This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at  
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